

Sinclair Broadcasting Group's plan to push their personal, political agenda via the public airwaves is a perfect example of why relaxing media ownership standards is a TERRIBLE idea.

They have been granted the use of OUR airwaves; this is a PRIVILEGE. To qualify for this privilege they pledged to serve the public good. By announcing their intent to push a partisan political agenda with no intention of granting equal time to any opposing points of view, they have shown that they are not honoring their pledge. In my opinion, this proves that they are unworthy of any future consideration when FCC licenses are granted.

Our Democracy depends upon free and independent media with the ability to reflect the regional differences and issues that are of concern to us. Consolidation of ownership of numerous TV and radio outlets by a few large corporations eliminates the regionalism that is vital for the survival of our Democracy. This is by definition, therefore, NOT in the public interest. Sinclair's recent actions, and their unwillingness to back down in the face of overwhelming public outrage, have proven this fact.

Media ownership rules need to be strengthened, not further weakened as has been evidenced, in my opinion, by recent actions of the FCC. Media conglomerates need to be strictly held to their pledges to "serve the common good." Our Democracy depends upon it.

Sincerely,

Jane E. Leffler